How Well-Bred Englishmen Behave.

A book which has attracted a great deal of attention on the part of the English middle classes, and whose statements have been anproved by perfectly competent authority, is The Manners and Tone of Good Society, by a Member of the Aristocracy (London, Frederick Frederick Warne & Co). The aim of this edifying treatise is to supply those unfortunate persons whose acquaintance with what is 'popularly cailed so clety is limited, with comprehensive instructions touching what is done and what is n done under various circumstances by well-bred people. We are not surprised to learn that the information conveyed in this small volume has proved a precious boon to a muititude of anxious and aspiring men and women in the British islands who have heretofore been haunted by a not unfounded droud of pernetrating social solecisms. We apprehend that the hints and monitions of an expert is conventional lore may prove not less grateful to the American reader, seeing that the people of the United States, according to Mr. Matthew Arnold, consti tute an essentially middle-class community. At all events it will be found a less bewildering and irksome task to adjust our conduct to ex-plicit teachings and peremptory warnings than to the random hints collected by the patient student of English nevels.

It is natural that the author should devote his first chapter to the etiquette of card-leaving seeing that this observance forms the ground work, or corner stone, of all polite acquaint anceship. A lady's visiting card, we are told should be thin, and without glaze, and as re gards size, three and a baif inches in width by two and a half mehes in depth. The sam thing may be said of a gentleman's card, excep that this will be very much narrower, an somewhat shorter. In both cases the name should be printed in the centre of the card, and the address in the right-hand corner, the type kind of embellishment in respect of ornamen tal or old English letters. The gentleman name should be printed thus: "Mr. Smith, the Christian name never being added unles to distinguish him from his father or elder brother. To have printed on the eard the Christian name and surname without the prefix of "Mr.," as, for example, Francis Smith would be, we are assured, a glaring solecism and in the worst possible taste; also initials appertaining to honorary rank, such as "M "Q. C.," &c., should never be printed nor written on a eard. Military or professiona titles, such as "Col. Brown," "Rev. H. Jones," &c., are, of course, always used; indeed, "Th Honorable" is the only title that is never see on a visiting eard. Thus, The Honorable Henry Smith's card would bear the words " Mr Henry Smith" only. We may add that a" The preceding the title of a peer is not employed in such a case. In London society, visiting card can never be sent by post, and only under exceptional circumstances can a servant be allowed to leave them. As a rule, both gentleme and ladies must convey their cards in person. married indy however, besides her own card leaves two of her husband's, one being for the mistress and one for the master of the house If the mistress of the house is at home, the lady calling must, on leaving, leave two of her hus band's cards on the hall table in a conspicuous place. She should not put them in the ears basket or give them to the host if he were at home and polite enough to es cort her to her carriage, neither should she leave them on the drawing-room table, or offer them to her hostess, all of which perform ances would be very incorrect; but she might in the hall, hand them to the man servan ellently, or send them in by her own servan after taking her seat in her carriage. She must on no account, however, leave her own card on the hall table when she has berself see: the lady of the house. If the lady calling were accompanied by her husband and found he at home, the husband, on withdrawing, would leave one of his own cards on the hall table, for the master of the house, which would be the only card left on this occasion. If ther were daughters, the lady visitor would, when leaving cards, turn down one corner, usually the right-hand corner, of her card for them. Again, if there were sons, the lady would loave separate cards of her husband's for them. To write the name of the gentleman or lady fo whom the cards are intended would be, we are assured, a monstrous solecism, save in the ex ceptional case where persons are staying at a crowded hotel. For young ladies to have visiting cards of their own would be deemed words "Miss" or "The Misses" invariable prefixed, are always printed beneath that of their mother, on her card, or, in the ease of there being no mother living, beneath that of her father, on the usual ladies' visiting card, but never on the smaller cards used by gentlemen. The same rule would apply to

brother and sister residing alone. The send-

ing of funeral and of christening cards is en

tirely inadmissible in good society. The prac

tice also of sending wedding cards is out o

date, and the doing so would now appear

gross anomaly in the eyes of the fashionable

both in town and country, should always be left

between 215 and 614, the most correct time being

between 3 and 5 o'clock. We need scarcely ad-

that cards must always be returned within a

week, if possible, or ten days at latest, after

they have been left, and that care must be taken

to return the calls or eards according to the

etiquette observed by the visitor. In other

only, or a card by a call. This is a point, i

seems, about which English ladies are ex

tremely punctillous.

rds, a call must not be returned by a car-

We may mention, further, that cards,

Morning calls, to which another chapter of this volume is consecrated, can be only mad between the hours of three and six o'clock From three to four o'clock, we learn, is the ceremonious hour, from four to five the semi ceremonious, while from five to six is the wholl friendly and unceremonious hour. On Sundays ladies never pay ceremonious calls, and for a mere acquaintance to call on that day would b viewed in the light of a liberty. But intimat friends are apt to make it an especial day for When the mistress of the house is a home, a lady or gentleman must on no account give her or his visiting card to the servant; i would be a flagrant vulgarism to do so. For gentleman to leave his hat in the hall would b in the worst taste. He must take it with him into the drawing room and held it in his hand or place it on a chair or table, not on the floor. The author of this volume, not having the American middle classes before his eyes, does not think it necessary to add that the mistress or master of the must, under no circumstances, offer to reliev the visitor of his hat. When gentlemen wen gloves, which nowadays in England they sel dom or never do in the country, except when driving, and in town almost as seldom, they would draw off the right-hand glove at least before entering the drawing room, though if for some reason, they preferred to remain gloved, they of course would offer no apology. It appears that one American solecism is com mon among the English middle classes, for the author goes on to say that the heatess must not ask her visitor to "be seated," nor to "take a sent," nor" where he or she would like to sit, Ac. but must at once sit down, and expect her visitor to do the same, which, if he or she is well bred, will forthwith be done. To ask a visitor of either sex if he or she will take any re freshment is a plain breach of good manner though if ten and biscuits happened to b brought in while the visitor was in the draw in room, they would naturally be offered. We may note here that plates and doilies are not use in good society at afternoon tea; to use them would be esteemed bad style. If a second visitor arrives before the first caller leaves, the hostess should, in no case, introduce them un less she has some very peremptory reason for doing so; neither should she be at gains to draw both visitors into the conversation unless aware that the two would be likely to appreciate each other. The obvious truth is, that it is the duty of the first visitor to take leave very soon after the arrival of the second. It two visitors, either

two ladies or two gentlemen, had not spoken to ach other during the call, they would not bow on leaving; if they had conversed with each other, without an introduction, they would on no account shake hands, but would merely bow; and even if they had been formally introduced, they would still only bow unless the acquaintance had progressed into sudden intimacy through previous knowledge of each other. With the ostess, on the other hand, each guest would invariably shake hands on leaving.

There is no feature of American manners

against which English people inveigh more vehemently than our practice of making indiscrim-inate introductions. Our author several times insists that in English society a lady would never dream of introducing two of her acquaintances merely because they happened to meet in he own drawing room, unless they had each expressed a desire to know one another. universally received rule is to consult the wishes of both persons on the subject before making the presentation. Acquiescence having been given, the lady of lower rank must be introduced to the lady of higher rank, and, of ourse, a gentleman is always introduced to a lady, as thus: "Mr. A., Mrs. B." To repeat the names in a reversed manner is deemed unnec essary and vulgar. It is not usual for ladies on being first introduced to shake hands, but only to bow; yet there are exceptions to this rule For example, if a lady of higher rank or social position than the other were to offer to shake hands, it would be a compliment and a mark of friendliness on her part, and the mistress of nouse will always shake hands with every one introduced to her in her own home. At dinner parties it is not customary to make general in troductions, though the host or hostess would naturally present a gentleman to the lady whom he is to take down to dinner. On the other hand, to introduce gentlemen to one another over their wine after dianer would be deemed entirely unnocessary, as they would onverse with each other as a matter of course. In like manner, at country house parties, as well as "afternoon teas" and "at homes," it is quite within the rules of etiquette for the guests to talk with one another, if inclined to do so but the act of so conversing does not constitute an acquaintanceship. Ladies, for instance would not bow to each other after exchanging a few polite remarks at a 5 o'clock ten or garden party, unless there were some particular social link between them to warrant their so doing, in which case the lady of higher position mus always take the initiative.

It is difficult to master the etiquette of walk. ing and driving from the random hints in English novels, and accordingly American young ladies perpetrate some blunders on this score in London. Married ladies can, if they please, walk out unaccompanied and unat-tended, but they must never do so in places of public resort, such as the park in town, or the promenades of fashionable watering places. A young lady would on no account waik by her self, but would be accompanied either by a relative or governess, or, failing these, would be attended by a lady's maid. Such restrictions we need not say, do not apply to the secluded neighborhoods of suburban towns, where up married ladies may, with sufficient propriety, pass from house to house of friends or rela tives who reside in the near vicinity of their own homes. As regards the recognition of acquaintances while walking or driving, it is, of course, the indy's privilege to take the initia-tive, and it has of late become the fashion in England for indice to nod rather than bow their male acquaintances, making a short, de cisive movement of the head only instead of onding the neck. At watering places or in the park, and in all public promenades, it is usual for gentlemen to join ladies with whom they are acquainted, and to walk with them for s short time; but it is a mistake to suppose that adies and gentlemen, whether related or not. ever walk arm in arm at the present day in England, unless the lady is an elderly one, o

requires support. Perhaps the worst stumbling block encoun tered by American heroines of international episodes is the colloquial application of titles t is doubtless a pleasant thing to chat with a lord, but it is painful to learn afterward that you have made a point of addressing him after he manner of his tradesmen or his valet. In his field of social discovery, the most assiduous student of fashionable novels is apt to be led astray. For either, as in the case of Thackeray's Henry Esmond." the forms of address are ntiquated, or else the author's opportunities have been confined to middle-class society. whose knowledge of the subject is deplorably defective. It so happens that the colloquial apttion of titles differs materially from tuel employment under other circumstances, and hose young ladies unaccustomed to converse except in dreams, with the British aristocracy, are now and then at a loss as to whether the should or should not make use of the full title in addressing a peer of the realm. We need not say that they are racked with a far more poignant auxiety when fortune has placed them for an hour in the company of a royal personage. To commence wit he highest lady in the British realm, the feader will bear in mind that she is never ad bressed as "Your Majesty," nor as "Madam. by the members of the aristogracy and o all classes of gentry, but as "Ma'am" only The ladies and gentlemen of her household also address her as "Ma'am." On the other hand. all classes not falling within the category of gentry, such as the "lower professional" and 'middie," as well as the "lower middle" and 'lower" classes, must always address her as Your Majesty." and never as "Ma'am." So. too, the Princess of Wales and all the princessos of the blood royal are addressed as "Ma'am" by the aristocracy and gentry, and as "Your Boya Highness" by all other classes. The Prince of Wales, the Dake of Etinburgh, and all princes of the blood are addressed as "Sir" by the aristocracy and gentry, and never as "Your Boyal Highness," whereas the latter form of address must be used by all classes but those just named. In England a foreign prince or princess would be addressed colloquially by the aristocracy and gentry not as "Sir" or "Ma'am," but as "Prince" or "Princess," and by all other classes as "Your Screne Highness." An English duko is addressed in conversation as "Duke" by the aristocracy and gentry, and never as " Your Grace;" the latter style, on the other hand, must be employed by the lower classes. Of course the same distinction would be made by persons conversing with an English duchess. An English marquis or marchioness would never be addressed colloquially as "Marouts" or " Marchioness," but as " Lord Angle sey." or "Lady Anglesey," for instance, by the upper classes, and by all other persons as "My

ord." "Your ladyship." &c. The same remark applies to earls, viscounts, and barons, They and their wives are addressed, in conversation, as "Lord Stanley" or "Lady Spencer" by the aristocracy and gentry, and as "My lord" or "Your lordship," &c., by all other classes. For a member of either the aristocracy or gentry to address any titled person whatever as "My lord" or "My lady." "Your lordship" or "Your lady ship," would be to evince a total want of knowledge of the usages of society. It is true that some noblemen familiarly speak o eir wives to intimate friends as " My lady. and that wives and children occasionally speak f their husbands and fathers as "My lord." But this is a piece of home circle familiarity and is beside the question of etiquette sitogether.

It is a common error with fashionable novel ists of a certain class, when dealing with earls daughters, an entrancing topic to the British middle classes, to speak of them by their family names only, and entirely to ignore their Christian names. It is a frequent blunder, also with authors somewhat better informed, to represent persons only slightly acquainted with the young ladies as addressing them as "Lady Constance," or " Lady Gwendoline," for example, omitting the family name. The fact is that the daughters of dukes, marquises, and early are addressed by the upper classes by their Christian and family names combined, with the prefix of Lady. Thus, to her acquaintances, the daughter of the Marquis of Anglesey would be "Lady Florence Paget," and only her intimate

same rule must be observed in addressing the younger sons of dukes and marquises, only those well acquainted with them being authorized to say " Lord John" instead of " Lord John Russell." We searcely need add that the wife of such a person would be addressed by the Christian name and surname of her husband, or in the case of intimate acquaintances by her husband's Christian name alone; in the one instance she would be "Lady Charles Bentinck," in the other " Lady Charles." As for the courtesy title of " Honorable" borne by the younger sons of earls, viscounts, and barons, and the daughters of viscounts and barons, it is never used colloquially under any circumstances. It must never, as we have seen, be printed on a visiting card, nor need it be employed by servants in announcing such persons in drawing rooms. Baronets, we need not say, are the despair of Frenchmen, and even such a careful English novelist as Thackeray has occasionally fallen into error in the colloquial application of their names. By the arisocracy and gentry baronets are addressed by their title, coupled with both their Christian name and surname, as "Sir Pitt Crawley," but by their titles and Christian names alone by all other classes. To give a baronet's wife the Christian as well as the surname of her husband, as thus, "Lady William Harcourt," instend of "Lady Harcourt," would be a gross blunder, since it would be tantamount to giving her the rank of the wife of the younger son of a luke or marquis, to which she is far from being entitled.

It would, we are further informed, be very illbred for the wife of a commoner to address her husband colloquially by his surname only, as Brown or Bangs," or to speak of him to third persons without the prefix of Mr. The wives of commoners would, of course, address helr husbands by their Christian names the other hand, pecresses invariably address their husbands, and speak of them to third persons, by the name attached o their title, in place of using their Christian or Thus the Earl of Plintsbire would be styled "Flintshire" without the preax of "Lord," and such, we need not say, would be his usual signature. The wives of baronets or knights do not thus address their husbands. but would speak of or to them as " Sir George" or "Sir John."

We do not know that our feminine readers are specially interested in the etiquette of "drawing rooms" and "levees;" nevertheess, as some of them may contemplate a presentation at Buckingham Palace, it may be well o notice some of our author's suggestions on hose heads. It will doubtless prove agreeable o them to learn that their chances of securing this privilege are, at all events, decidedly better han those of Englishwomen in precisely equivalent positions. For instance, the wife of the argest manufacturer of iron, siks, or woollens, or of the most opulent groser or retail dealer n dry goods, is hopelessly out off from the presence of her sovereign. Indeed, the line is e rigorously drawn that were a person actually engaged in trade or industry, even on the videst scale, to obtain a presentation, the priviege would be cancelled as soon as the Lord hancellor was made aware of the nature of his occupation. So, too, if anything improper in the person's moral antecedents is discovered he presentation is cancelled, as was done in the case of Lady Twiss. Notwithstanding these restrictions, the word "gentry" has become nuch more elastic than it used to be, and at present covers not only the families of country gentlemen and persons belonging to the mili ary, naval, and elerical professions, or to the Inne of Court, but also the families of enclesale importers of foreign products, of bankers, and lastly even of mem-bers of the Stock Exchange. It may further be observed that wealth and associaions, as well as station and birth, have some hing to do with the use of the privilege. For astance, the wife or daughters of an officer in he navy, or in a line regiment, whose means were slender and whose position was obscure. rould not be justified in attending the Queen's drawing room, and this remark applies equally to the wives and daughters of clergynen, barristers, and others similarly situated,

A lady, having been presented, has the priviege of attending any subsequent room" during the remainder of her life, unless ome change occurs in her social position; that is to say, a young hely presented before her marriage would need to have the ceremony renowed afterward, since the question of her husband's social status would need investigation. The same rule is followed surjensly enough even though her station should have been manrushand to any title. We may say here that a ady is not expected to attend more than on-'drawing room" out of the four held each year. Provided she has once been duly prosented, it is not necessary to inform the Lord Chamberlain of her intention of attending on subsequent occasions. At these times, too, she does not kiss the Queen's hand, as at her presentation, but curtseys to her only as she passes Neither need she then weara white gown, as she must do, if an unmarried lady, at her preentation, and it is also the fashion for married adies to wear white on their first appearance at a "drawing room." It is compulsory for both parried and unmarried women to wear plumes. te former's plume consisting of three white eathers and the latter's of two. A lady must also wear either ince lappets or a tulie veil the former being as a rule, assumed by the married women, and the latter by the unmarried. The wearing of low bodices is also indispensable, aithough upon a certificate from a physician the Lord Chamberlain will sometimes grant an exemption. A gentleman may accompany his wife r daughter to a "drawing room" if he had been previously presented at a levee, but it is very unusual for him to do so, and the Queen has ex-pressed a distinct wish that drawing rooms should be attended by ladies only. A presentation to the Prince or Princess of Wales at a levee or drawing room is equivalent to a presentation to her Majesty. On the other hand, a presentation to the vice-regal court in Dublin would not entitle a lady to attend her Majesty's drawing room. That seems intelligible enough, but it is a curious fact that a presentation at Buckingham Palace does not entitle a lady to attend a drawing room held at Dub-lin Castle. Neither does it follow, by any means, that a presentation to her Majesty entitles a person to invitations to either of the State balls or concerts two of each being given during the season at Buckingham Palace. It would be even more absurd to suppose that persons who have been presented at drawing rooms and levees are entitled to attend what is known as a court." A court is a reception held by her Majesty, and persons attend it by command of her Majesty alone. One or two courts, at most. are held each year, usually before Easter, at which the leading members of the aristocracy. the diplomatic body, the Premier and members of the Cabinet, &c., are received. Ladies and centiemen who have been presented at a drawing room or levee have the privilege of writing Buckingham Palace once during the season, but

their names in her Majesty's visiting book at only when her Majesty is residing at the palace. So far as the etiquette of dinner parties in Engand is concerned with the rules of precedence, it has no particular interest for us. Some other points, however, noted by our author, may be worth more attention. In the first place the invitations, in case the dinner party is to be large, should be issued some three weeks or, at least, ourteen days before the day appointed. For this purpose printed cards must be used, only the names, date, hour, and address being entered in writing. The united names of the host and hostess must invariably be written in the space designed for them. It is of course incumbent upon the invited person to despatch an answer within two days, at furthest, in order that a vacant place may be at once filled up. It is not usual in town to invite more than two members of one family, young adles being seldom asked with their parents to dinner parties; but in the country this rule is not observed. Guesta should arrive within fifteen minutes of the hour named, which is usually 8 o'clock. A lady would, of course, take

off her cloak in the cloak room before going up

gloves, if he happened to be wearing the latter. Ladies on the other hand, must always wear them, and not remove them until seated at dinner. Americans may further need to be reninded that a lady and gentleman do not enter the drawing room arm in arm, nor side by side; it would be very valuar to do either, especially the former. Although the servant would announce Mr. and Mrs. A, and Miss B, the lady or ladies would always enter the room in advance of the gentleman. It is scarcely necessary to add that a gentleman in variably offers his right arm to a lady on taking her down to dinner, and the lady will sit on his right hand at table. On the Continent this custom is reversed, and it is the etiquette for the lady to sit at the left hand of the gentleman by whom she is taken in to dinner. The custom of putting a slip of paper, or ornamental card with the name of the guest, in the place allotted to each individual, is now altogether exploded in England and is never followed in good society. The host would remain standing in his place at the bottom of the table until the guests had taken their seats, meanwhile mo tioning the various couples as they enter the dining room to the places he wishes them to ccupy. When a lady has taken her seat at the dinner table, she would, if aware that some time will be occupied in removing her gloves, owing to their numerous buttons, make room for the soup plate before taking them off, otherwise the servant would be at her elbow offering her soup before she had removed the bread and napkin. The menus will, of course, be written out in French, and if a menu holder, or small china slate, is not used, the dinner card will be placed upright against a base of flowers, or in some conspicuous snot facing the counts for whose use it is intended. Unless, however, there is an abundant choice of dishes the use of menu cards would be absurdly pretentious. Before following the dinner in some detail, it may be well to touch another point on which the reader will perhaps like some information. It is a blunder suppose that a dinner is intended to be a succession of tête-A-têtes. It is selely a matter of inclination whether a lady and gentleman who have gone in to dinner together converse with each other only, or with their right and left. hand neighbors. Whether acquainted or not with the latter, they would, if familiar with the usages of good society, converse with them oc-

casionally. It is no longer correct to have tall flowering plants, or large épergnes, placed on the table, or anything that would obstruct the view of the vis-à-vis, and preciude the possibility of general conversation. Bearing in mind this restriction as to height, you may decorate the table with flowers only, or you may add fruit and French onfections; but if the Russian fashion be folowed in its rigor, no part of the dessert save the ruit can be placed on the table. For the purloses of lighting, wax condles should be used and possibly lamps with colored shades; never gas under any circumstances. It is hardly worth noting that, however handsome a cruel stand may be, it should never be set the dinner table, neither should single crusts be placed at different corners, but they should be handed round on a salver by a servant. That such things should se required at all will be seen to imply a reflecion upon the cuisine of the hest. The same exception might, in theory, be taken to salteelars, but the usage is that these should be ranged the length of the table, one saitesilar for two persons. What is known as the "cover," that is to say the preliminary table equipage laid for each person, consists of the following articles: Two large knives, and a silver knife and fork for fish, a tablespeen for soup; three large forks, and glasses for sherry, for hock and for champagne. Tumblers or goblets for water are not used at dinner parties, but are kept on the sie-board in case they should required. Fish, as we have intimated should be eaten with a silver fish knife and fork, the use of a fork and crust of bread being now an unheard-of way of eating life society. In eating asparagus a knife and fork should be used, the correct thing being to cut off the points with a knife, and eat them as you would seakale or any other vegeta It is no longer proper to hold the stake in the fingers. Between salad and cucumber this distinction is observed, that the latter must be eaten off the dinner plate, and not off a separate plate. As regards dessert, jellies, blanc mange, and feed puddings must be eaten with a fork, and never with a spoon; on the other or silver ice spoon. In eating cheese small morsels of the cheese should be placed with the knife on small morsels of bread, the latter being conveyed to the mouth with the thumb and finger. . Cheese should never be touched by the flugers nor conveyed to the mouth by the fork, much less by the knife. The notion that the table cloth should be removed for dessert is entirely exploded. Touching the eating of fruit, we may remark that strawberries and raspberries should never be brought on the table hulled, after the American fashion. They should be placed in the mouth by the stalk, which is then laid on the plate from the fingers. If cream is eaten with them, a spoon is obviously needed for soparating the fruit from the stalk and preparing it with the cream. Both knife and fork are used in eating pines, and so with pears or apples, which are necled and cut into quarters Although the fruit may be placed on the table the guests will on no account help themselves during the dessert, but each dish will be taken

off in turn by the servants and handed to them If liqueurs are given at all, they should be served on a small silver solver immediately after the ices have gone round. The butler would then fill the guests' glasses with either claret or sherry. These are the usual wines drunk at dossort in England, port and madelra being no longer fashionable. As regards dinner wines, one glass only of sherry is served after soup. and one glass of book or chablis with the oysters or with the flah, but not with both. Champagne is trunk immediately after the first entree, and so luring the remainder of dinner until dessert. t being offered three or four times. It is not usual for ladies to take wine every time it is profferred them by the butler; neither are they supposed to require a second glass at dessert.

in no case will a lady help herself to wine. On rising to leave the dining room, a lady will not put her napkin on the table, but will leave unfolded on the chair she has vacated. The door will not be opened by the butler, who should have left the room before the ladies withdraw, and after placing a claret jug and two decanters of sherry in front of the host. The gentleman seated negrest the door, or quickest of movement, will, of course, open the loor for the ladies to pass out, and close it after them. It has long ceased to be the fashion for gentlemen to take wine formally with each other, either at dinner or at dessert, but the guest fills his glass or not, according to inclination. It is now unusual to sit over the wine more than twenty minutes at the utmost after the ladies have left the table. It is pleasant to record, however, that the wine commonly drunk by gentlemen after dinner is Bordeaux of a superior quality, and not dinner claret of the kind served during the presence of the less appreciative sex.

The five o'clock tea has become a popular orm of entertainment on this side of the Atantic, and some account of the etiquette observed on such an occasion in the country of its origin may prove not unacceptable. There are, we should premise, three classes of five clock teas. There is, for instance, the large and ceremonious assemblage of from fifty to a hundred guests, where professional, vocal, and instrumental taient is usually engaged, although the entertainment is not of sufficient importance to be termed a concert. There is, again, the semi-ceremonious gathering of from twenty to forty persons, when amateur talent is in requisition, for the amusement of the guests; and we have lastly the small or friendly "tea" of from five to fifteen people, where conversation usually takes the place of music. To each and all of

a contleman would leave his top coat, hat and ordinary visiting card, and never on the regular "at home" card. The name of the pe The reader will please take notice that gen-tlemen do not wear gloves at dinner parties. Invited is written at the top in the right hand corner, the words "at home" being written beneath the printed name of the lady issuing the invitation, and the hours, "four to seven," the left hand at the bottom of the card. The word "music" would be added at the bottom of the card, if especially good music were to be given, and not otherwise. While five o'clock tens, however, are thus invariably styled "at homes" upon the card, yet in a verbal invitation, or in referring to them in conversation, the would always be spoken of as "five o'clock tens." In the same way an after dinner "at home, or reception, is never termed an "evening party" on a card of invitation, though it would be correct to say, "I am going to a party at Mrs. A.'s to-night," and pedantic to use in collequia parlance the phrase "I am going to an 'at Neither are the words "afternoon tea" ever used when issuing written invita-tions, and the old-fashioned term "kettledrum" is now chiefly to be met with in the pages of those novelists who evolve their knowllife of the fashionable world out of the depths I their own consciousness. We may add that it unusual to write B. S. V. P. in the corner of such invitation cards, as it is immaerial how many guests are present this class of entertainment. We may add further that, although invitations to five clock tens are issued in the name of the tess only, it is customary to include the head of the guest's family in the invitation. The sons of the house would be invited by parate eards, but the daughters would be named in the invitations sent to their mother. The title of "Honorable" should never be put n an invitation card, but only on the envelope entaining it. All other titles are recognized n invitation cards, but the merely complimen tary distinctions of "K. C. B.," are not written on the eards, but always on the avelopes in which they are enclosed. usual refreshments at large ceremonious teas are tea and coffee served from large silver urns, sherry, champagns cup, claret cup, thin bread and butter, fancy biscuits and cakes, potted game sandwiches, fruit, and ices smaller teas no fruit nor ices are given, and the tea is served in a drawing room or boudoir, instead of at a long buffet in the ining room. We may add that plates and doilies are not used in good society at afteron teas unless ices, fruit, or sandwiches are given. If a lady desired to eat ices and fruit or read and butter, she would, of course, remove her gloves, but not if she intended taking only en or coffee. It is not usual for a lady to take more than one cup of tea. On such occasions it unnecessary to take leave of the hostess uness she is a new acquaintance and the visit a lirst one at her house; neither would the hostess ring to order the door to be opened for a de

parting guest, as she would do at morning calls. Invitations to evening receptions are issued on regular "at home" cards, and one particuar hour is stated. If the reception follows a dinner party given by the hostess, no amin ent is, as a rule, provided for the guests. If my royal personage were expected, or had bee present at the dinner party which preceded the reception, the words "To meet her Seren Highness Princess D." or the like, would be written at the top of the invitation card. It uch a case, the most distinguished of the guestyould be presented by the host or hostes the royal personage, and at supper a tabl ould be set apart for the latter. It is not usua take leave of the hostess or of the host at reptions, and frequently guests do not return t he drawing room after supper. Cards should lways be left within a week by those who have on either present at or invited to evening re eptions and five o'clock teas. The etiquette of ball rooms is more rigorou-

in English than in American society. At a ball young ladies must return to their chaperones cromptly after each dance, or after partaling of refreshment, and it is considered very bad form for young ladies to remain away from heir chaperones for any length of time. Neither is it considered good style for a lady to promenade up and down and around the ball room caning on the arm of her partner; and fev hings are accounted more vulgar than for a ouple to stand arm in arm during the pauses of the figures in a quadrille, or while resting during a valse. A lady is caroful also that the partner does not hold her right hand outtretched in the air while dancing. For ladies to take bouquets with them so balls is now quite out of date in good society, although ultra fashionable women sometimes carry a large bunch of violets at a time of year when such flowers would be procurable only with extrem difficulty. Programmes of dances are never used at London balls, though in the country they are still offered. The invitations to balls are written on the usual "at home" eard th word "Dancing" being printed in the corner. The word" ball" is never used on an invitation card, however grand the entertainment, but it would be correct to employ the term in collquial reference to the occasion.

If a member of the royal family or a foreign prince were expected, dancing would not con mence until the arrival of the royal guest, who would open the ball with the hostess, or if a princess, with the host. When Prince of the blood wishes to dance with any lady present with whom he is unac minted, his equerry informs her of the Prince's intention, and conducts her to him saving, as he does so, "Mrs. A--, Sir," o Miss B-, Sir." The Prince would how and offer her his arm; the lady would curtsey and take it. She would not address him until ad dressed by him, it not being considered etiquette to do so. When the wish of a Prince i signified in this way, it is equivalent to r command, and is, of course, never refused. It is said, however, that the husband of an American lady, unacquainted, prot ably, with the usages of the aristocracy, in formed a Prince's equerry, on a recent of casion, that his wife declined the honor of presentation to the Prince. We hear that this performance was deemed a rather silly piece of impertinence, and that its author has been relegated to the middle class of society, from which he had emerged. Royal guests are of course always received by the host and hostes at the entrance of the mansion and conducted to the ball room, the same etiquette being ob served on their departure. Other guests do not take leave of the hostess at a London ball. though they would often do so in the country. We may say here that at a State ball at Buckingham Palace ladies and gentlemen are not announced, and no official reception is nesorded to them. At the balls, on the other hand, given at Marlborough House, the Prince and Princess of Wales act as host and hostess

receiving their guests and shaking hands with them as they are announced. The etiquette observed at English weddings is invariably the same, whether the occasion be a grand or a comparatively quiet one. We observe that many customs once, telerated are now entirely obsolete. Such are the bridal cessions that used to be formed in a church, but which are now thought in very ban taste. So, also, to have groomsmen at a worlding would, at the present day, be considered a grave solecism, the "best man" being all-sufficient for the purpose of supporting the bridegroom. The custom of sending wedding cake to friends is also rigorously taboord in good society. The sending of "wedding cards" to friends is likewise entirely out of date, and should not be done by any one with the faintest pretensions to knowledge of the world. As to inserting the words "no eards," as part of the announcement of a marriage in the daily newspapers, or adding that the bride and bridegroom will be" at home" on a given day, these would be crowning vulgarisms.

The bridegroom's responsibilities are limited to paying the clergyman's fee (which must be at least \$25, and is usually \$1000, and the clerk's fee (which must not be less than \$5, and is commonly \$25), to providing the wedding ring, a bouquet for the bride and bouquets for the bridesmaids, which he causes to be sent to these ladies individually on the morning of the wedding. He must also make each bridesmaid a friends would style her "Indy Pidrence," The stairs or would leave it in the hall, where, also, I these gatherings, invitations are issued on the before or on the morning of the ceremony. It

is strict etiquette that he should likewise furnish a carriage to convey himself and his bride from the church to the house where the wedding breakfast is to take place, and again from the house to the railway station or to the place of honeymoon. But the bridal carriage is the only one which the bridegroom could possibly oc permitted to furnish, and he must not provide anything whatever relating to the arrange ments for the wedding beyond those which have been mentioned.

Every one who is invited to a wedding invari-

ably makes the bride a present; this is a rule which must not be broken. If very numerous

and valuable, it is not unusual to exhibit the presents at an afternoon tea given for the pur pose on the day previous to the wedding. Afterward they are of course despatched to the bride's residence, but there it would be extremely vulgar to set them apart for the purpose of showing them to visitors. At a wedding brenkfast, ladies never remove their bonnets or hats; and here we may note that the introduction of a gentleman to a lady for the purpose of taking her down to breakfast on these occasions does not create any title to a subsequen acquaintance. Tea and coffee, we need not say must never be served at a wedding breakfast, which, as regards the character of the meal, might more properly be styled luncheon. At a standing-up breakfast decenters of shorry are placed on the table, and a gentleman would ask one of the servants in stendance for champagne for the lady he has taken down, and for himself. But at a sittingdown breakfast the servant offers champagne to the guests as he would hand the other wines. Dinner napkins or serviettes are imperative at a sitting-down breakfast, but are never used a a stanling-up breakfast; finger glasses and doilles must never be seen at either. Hot or cold joints are never given, and if soup is served at all, it must be done in covered soup cups, placed the length of the table. The bride leaves the dining room immediately after the formal healths have been drunk. Two other points may be noted, namely, that in good society the honeymoon now lasts no longer than a week, or ten days at the very furthest, and that the bride's trousseau should invariably be marked with the initials of the name she is to take, and not with her maiden name. It is true that if the wedding failed to ome off after all, and such accidents have occurred even in good society-the lady's clothes would have to be marked anew, but this would doubtless be set down as a sordid consideration. naworthy to find a place in love's young dream. Perhaps a word or two should here be said about luncheon, although this is an unceremonious, inconsequent meal, to which invitation are never formally issued by printed cards, unless some especial reason exists for giving a arge luncheon party. The usual mode of in-

viting guests to luncheon would be either by word of mouth or by a written note of invita-

tion, a week's notice being the longest usually

given. Many hostesses give their friends carte

blanche invitations to luncheon, but ladies,

as a rule, would not avail them-solves of this façon de parler, Gentlemen,

on the contrary, are expected to profit by the proffered hospitality without ceremony, since their presence at an hour when ladies are usually in the majority is very properly ac-

STORIES ABOUT EMINENT PARROTS

Although stories are common concerning the saggesty of some of the lower animals, one is hardly prepared for the tale that comes from the Stockholm Dagbladel of a trial in the court of the town of Malmo, Sweden, where a large gray parrot was the leading witness for the plaintiff, and earried the Judge, jury, and liseners by its volubility. This bird was brought o Norway by a whaler, and finally fell into the hands of a lady of Malmo, who happened to be indiscreet in her methods of education. Not contented with instilling "Polly wants a eracker" and such legitimate parrot lore into the bird's head, she used it as an object at which to vent her feelings; and so the hird coame possessed of information that told plainly that her mistress was very much of a gossip. The trouble began one day as a lady came to call upon the owner of the bird. The lady was announced, and the parrot, catching the name, yelled out, "Fru [Mrs.] W.! the old fool; she wears a wig!" and repeated it several times. Fru W. became indignant and accused her hostess of teaching the bird the insulting words, and finally left the house in a great rage. It soon became noised about, and the poor woman finally took refuge in the courts, and aued the owner of the bird for libel. A writ was served upon the bird and its owner, and no scoper did it hear the name of Fru W. in court than it screamed out the tell-tale sentence, repeating it over and over again. The Judge.

sooner did it hear the name of Frd W. in court than it screamed out the tell-tale sentence. repeating it over and over again. The Judge, jury and spectators were so impressed by the strange witness that its owner was found guilty and obliged to pay heavy damages.

Mr. Soby tells of a parrot that was kept near a quay in a seaport town, and had learned many words and eigenlatory terms that are used by sailors and earters. The word 'back' used by the carters was a great favorite with her. One day, observing a horse and cart on the quay she yelled out.' Back, back up!" with so much vigor that the poor horse backed off the quay and was drowned. La Fallant tells of one that lived to the patriarchal age of 93 years: 'In his best days this parrot had been distinguished for his conversational powers, and he was so remarkably elever that he would perform many little acts when ordered to do so, such as fetching his master's slippers, calling the servants, and the like. When he reached the ripe age of 60 his memory began to fail, and he confused and jumbled together fragments of former learning. From this time his infirmities went on increasing, until in his has days he became perfectly decrepted, and was only kept alive by being fed at intervals with biscuit soaked in Maderin.' Figuier mentions a gray parrot that was purchased in Bristol, and its intelligence was certainly wonderful. It asked for things and gave orders, sang several songs, and whistled some alrayevery well, beating the measure. When it made a false note it recommenced, and never committed the mistake again. Again, he said, often when passing through the laue des Fleur des Flammes at Montpellier he heard a parrot which distinctly song and articulated most distinctly in the measure. When it made a false note if recommenced, and never committed the mistake again. Again, he said, often when passing through the laue des Fleur des Flammes at Montpellier he heard a parrot which distinctly song and articulated most distinctly two verses of song.

In the 'Travels

ocet to profit by
course when halves are
a lawy properly accounted by the course of the course of a very properly accounted by the course of t is "Riven," We may add that the accent is frequently misplaced in pronouncing British proper names, and a few of the words inside to mistake may be here noted. In "Indoma and Milais," the accent is on the first sylladies may be here noted. In "Indoma and Milais," the accent is on the first sylladies may be here noted. In "Indoma and Milais," the accent is on the first sylladies secondly while in Burnett Burnett, bear name. I Burnett B